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STATE FOR AC/CB, NP/CBM, VC/CCB, L/ACV, IO/S
SECDEF FOR OSD/ISP
JOINT STAFF FOR DD PMA-A FOR WTC
COMMERCE FOR BIS (GOLDMAN)
NSC FOR JOECK
WINPAC FOR LIEPMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [CWC](#)

SUBJECT: CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC): WEEKLY WRAP-UP
FOR 16 JULY 2004

This is CWC-88-04.

OPCW Draft Program and Budget 2005

11. (U) The co-facilitators Gordon Eckersly/Australia and Ian Mundell/Canada held four sessions on 13-14 July 2004 to discuss Executive Management, Policymaking Organs, and Administration. The DDG made a brief introduction to the elements covered by the Executive Management section. Delegations again raised their concerns about use of consultants and temporary assistance contracts (TACs) to augment TS staff. Delegations also inquired about the basis of funding for medical exams, maternal and dependent allowances, acquisition of furniture, and conversion of the security guard force from TACs to staff members. Delegations also questioned the large increase requested for DG and DDG travel and hospitality.

12. The DDG responded that expenditures for travel and hospitality in 2003 and 2004 to date were used to project the amount needed in 2005. The DG wants to host lunches for the EC Chair and Vice-Chairs, visiting SAB and ABAF members, and visiting dignitaries. The DG also plans extensive travel in support of the Action Plans on Universality and Article VII. Delegations then requested an actual program of activity that lays out which 2005 meetings, conferences, and workshops the DG plans to attend. TS responded that they did not have one, so reiterated that actual expenditures were the basis of the request.

13. With regard to the conversion of the guard force, Rob Simpson, Head of Office of Confidentiality and Security, noted that based on costs of contracting security services since 2001 (estimated to be over EUR 1 million in 2005, based on the experience of Europol, ICTY, and ICC), conversion to FT-EUR 750,000--is cost effective. In addition, personnel would turn over less frequently; and hence retain a high level of experience. In addition, the current status of the guard force creates morale problems: because half are FT and half are TACs, though they are all doing the same job.

14. Sylwin Gizowski presented the Policymaking Organs overview. Budget changes are the result of a change in contracted photographic reproduction services, with a sharp decrease in the next five-year contract along with two TAC positions to maintain the new equipment (maintenance personnel were provided by the previous contractor). Translation and interpretation services also decreased sharply, due to TS recognition that the five special EC sessions rarely last more than half a day although previously estimates used two days. The TS also reached an agreement with the Russian Federation (RF) that the RF would provide translation of a large backlog of verification-related documents. Gizowski also noted that most of the GTA budget was used for temporary, short-term assistance during the annual CSPs as well as an additional person to assist during regular EC sessions.

15. Director of Administration Herb Shultz presided over the discussion of the administration matters. Shultz noted that the EUR 150,000 requested for consultants broke down into 35,000 to reclassify costs when HR considered it necessary; 30,000 to streamline the broken procurement process; 45,000 for travel management; 20,000 for insurance policy review, and 20,000 for various RBB review elements. Schulz noted the pressure brought on all administration elements by the tenure decision, which accounts for much of the GTA requests.

16. Brazil questioned whether the hiring process takes into account equitable geographic representation (Answer: Yes, in fact for both permanent staff and TACs). Multiple delegations asked about the dramatic increases requested for furniture and computer equipment. Shultz replied that currently there is no re-capitalization program to replace aging computer equipment, security cameras, and furniture, so that this is a first step to establishment of a replacement

program.

17. The UK asked about salary and exchange rate calculations. Specifically, the former appears to be higher than that used in the UN system, while the latter (Euro .89 to the USD) greatly exceeds the actual current rate. Shultz replied that only Euro 10.4 million is affected by the exchange rate, which is calculated averaging from May 2003 to April 2004. The salaries are calculated using a five-year average. Switzerland noted that the UN uses a two-year average, and questioned the TS methodology.

18. Numerous delegations questioned the TS use of a two-to-three month lag to fill a vacant post, when actual experience suggests that 7 to 9 months is more accurate. Rick Martin, Head of the Budget Branch, noted that the lack of a head of HR resulted in longer than acceptable delays in filling vacant posts. This situation is expected to normalize to an expected eight-week lag period, so this is the figure that was used to project salary costs.

Medium Term Plan

19. Informal consultations on the Medium Term Plan (MTP) were held at the OPCW on 15 July. Besides the facilitators, DDG Brian Hawtin, Head of the International Cooperation Branch Bijoy Chatterjee, Director of Verification Horst Reeps, and Director of External Relations Huang Yu, were also present. For the most part, discussion centered upon the "core objectives" contained in the MTP. Both the facilitator and the DDG introduced the MTP as the Technical Secretariat's rationale for approaching the '05 budget and, consequently, a document whose time has past. This introduction seemed to irritate those States Parties who felt they had not yet been provided with an opportunity to comment on the core objectives. Several delegations, including India, Iran, South Africa, Brazil, Pakistan and Algeria lamented that States Parties need to agree on the objectives in order to agree on the budget. Specifically, these delegations advocated a "four pillar" approach, emphasizing International Cooperation and Assistance and Art. XI references as one of the four "pillars".

110. Several States Parties, including the Del, UK, France, Germany and Italy expressed appreciation for the Technical Secretariat's work and the opportunity to provide comment,

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while noting that the issue of objectives and how to meet them is now the responsibility of States Parties to agree in the context of the budget negotiations. The facilitator concluded the consultations by reminding States Parties that the MTP is a document only to be "noted" by the Executive Council and that the Technical Secretariat would address issues raised, as appropriate, in a re-draft of the MTP prior to the resumption of budget consultations in September. Del delivered all point provided in guidance, which the DDG indicated, specifically, in his final remarks would be addressed in the MTP redraft.

Universality

111. Facilitator Hela Lahmar/Tunisia held a 12 July session during which Huang Yu, Head of the External Relations Division reported on the DG's attendance at the Addis Ababa summit meeting of the African Union. Of particular note, the DG met 45 minutes with the Egyptian Foreign Minister at the latter's request to discuss how to accede to the Convention (no further details as yet). The DG also met with the Foreign Ministers of the States not Party Madagascar, Liberia, and Guinea-Bissau. Huang also invited States Party to participate/assist during upcoming TS bilateral assistance visits to States not Party (Note: Huang specifically asked del rep if the U.S. would be willing to participate. Please advise.).

112. Huang reported that TS efforts in Africa are going to pay off. He expects that Madagascar and Liberia to accede in the next several weeks, Comoros, and Sierra Leone to accede within months, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to eventually accede. However, Huang is disappointed that Angola has been at best noncommittal. It attended the Addis Ababa meeting, it confirmed but did not attend the Brussels meeting, and it does not return TS calls.

113. Huang also asked States Party to assist in TS efforts to encourage States not Party to attend the September 2004 National Authorities meeting in Beijing. He noted that the DG personally wrote to the heads of relevant Ministries of Foreign Affairs and local missions, inviting them to participate at TS expense.

¶14. When asked if the recent TS Universality mission to Brussels would be repeated, Huang noted that missions were planned for London (primarily Latin American and Caribbean states), Paris (primarily African states), and a repeat effort in Brussels (primarily African states), before CSP-9. No dates are set at this point. Huang noted that another possibility would be to hold a meeting in Geneva (primarily Asian states). In addition, the TS is considering inviting mission personnel from States not Party located in Paris, London, and Brussels to The Hague for a day of meetings (date TBD).

¶15. Germany, universally seconded, noted that many States are willing to assist the TS, but that it is difficult for States to respond when the TS does not provide dates and venues well in advance. Multiple delegations asked for a report of the two consultants' efforts. The facilitator noted that during her discussions with General Chong, she was told that his activities are secret and will remain so. Delegations were disappointed with Chong's response and pressed Huang for a full report of TS universality-related efforts (Note: In a conversation following the DG's return from Korea, Ambassador Javits was informed that the DG now sees a pressing need to retain Chong to work on universality on the Korean peninsula. It remains unclear, however, whether he would be retained as a contract consultant, or is being considered for the D-1 position advertised in ERD. End Note.). Austria, universally supported by other delegations, asked the TS to provide a country-by-country status report, including reports on recent contacts, in its next consultation with delegations. Huang noted that ERD had prepared such a report, but that the DG decided it was too sensitive to distribute to delegations. Delegations responded that was not acceptable.

¶16. Kellogg sends.
RUSSEL